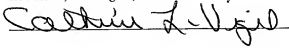


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George L. Payet : Paper No.:
Serial No.: To be assigned : Group Art Unit:
Filing Date: February 7, 2002 : Examiner:

For: **Textile Finishing Process**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to first action by the Examiner and calculation of the filing fee for the present divisional application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 1, lines 8-12 to read as follows:

-- The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/267,654 filed March 15, 1999, which was (a) a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/075,334, now U.S. Patent 5,885,303, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of prior pending application 60/046,298 filed May 13, 1997; and (b) a continuation-in-part of copending application 09/163,319, filed September 30, 1998.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-20.

Please add the following claims 21-30:

--21. (New) A process for treating textile fabric with formaldehyde to enhance at least one property of the fabric comprising:

treating a fabric containing fibers selected from the group consisting of cellulosic fibers and protein fibers with a composition comprising formaldehyde, and grafting an elastomer onto said cellulosic or protein fibers; wherein the fabric is unresinated.--

--22. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the composition comprises sufficient formaldehyde such that the amount of a 37%, by weight, formaldehyde solution on the fabric is from 1.5% to 20%, on weight of fabric.--

--23. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the fabric comprises rayon fibers, and wherein the fabric exhibits decreased shine due to pressing.--

--24. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the elastomer is a silicone elastomer.--

--25. (New) A method of decreasing shine due to pressing exhibited by fabrics comprising rayon fibers, comprising the steps of:

- (a) cross-linking the rayon fibers in a fabric with formaldehyde, and
- (b) providing the fabric with a silicone elastomer.--

--26. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein the step of cross-linking the rayon fibers comprises contacting the rayon fibers with a liquid composition comprising formaldehyde and catalyst.--

--27. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of cross-linking the rayon fibers comprises contacting the rayon fibers with a liquid composition consisting essentially of water, formaldehyde and catalyst.--

--28. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein after 5 washes the fabric has a durable press value of from 3 to 5.--

--29. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein after 5 washes the fabric has a warp shrinkage of from 0.17 to 3.3 and a fill shrinkage of from 0.16 to 7.25.--

--30. (New) A method according to claim 28, wherein the fabric comprises from 50% to 100%, by weight, rayon fibers.--

REMARKS

The present application is a divisional application of application Serial No. 09/267,654. By the present Amendment, the specification is amended to recite the current priority information. A Version With Markings Showing Changes Made is attached. Claims 1-20 are cancelled and claims 21-30 are added. Claims 21-30 substantially correspond with claims 3, 25-27 and 47-52, respectively, as presented in the Preliminary Amendment filed December 18, 2000 in parent application Serial No. 09/267,654, which were subject to restriction in the parent application in the Official Action dated March 8, 2001. It is believed that these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter, whereby entry is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Holly D. Kozlowski, Reg. No. 30,468
DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP
1900 Chemed Center
255 E. Fifth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 977-8568

759184

Version With Markings Showing Changes Made

In the Specification:

The paragraph appearing at page 1, lines 8-12 is amended as follows:

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/267,654 filed March 15, 1999, which was (a) [This application is]a continuation-in-part of [allowed] U.S. Application Serial [application serial] No. 09/075,334, [which will issue as] now U.S. Patent 5, 885, 303 [on March 23, 1999], [and] which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of prior pending application 60/046,298 filed May 13, 1997; and (b) a continuation-in-part of copending application 09/163,319, filed September 30, 1998.